

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for dispensing medication comprising: at least one canister containing the medication to be dispensed, said canister being movable in a first and a second direction;

a canister holder;

a mouthpiece providing a point of dispensation for the medication from the canister to a user when the canister is moved in the first direction;

a switch means for completing an electrical circuit when said canister moves in said first direction and opening the electrical circuit when said canister moves in the second direction, wherein the switch means is oriented to enable operational connectivity with the canister or canister discharge;

a counter module for performing a count upon the closure of the electrical circuit and displaying a dispensation history of the medication in the at least one canister; and

[a ramp that is contacted by a ferrule portion of the canister in a direction substantially non-axial to the first direction and which acts upon the switch means when the canister is moved in the first direction,]

a seal isolating the counter module from the mouthpiece and the canister to prevent cross-contamination and rendering said module substantially water-resistant, said seal comprising a ramp that is contacted by a ferrule portion of the canister in a direction substantially non-axial to the first direction and which acts upon the switch means when the canister is moved in the first direction.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the dispensation history includes the number of doses of medication remaining in the canister.
3. (Previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the dispensation history includes the number of doses taken of a dosage sequence.

4. (Previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the dispensation history includes the number of doses taken over a period of time.

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the period of time can be varied by a user.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the dispensation history includes time since the last dispensation of the medication.

Claims 7 -9 (Cancelled).

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch means includes an electrically conductive contact imbedded in the seal.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least portion of the counter module is disposed in the mouthpiece.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the counter module is disposed external to the mouthpiece.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the switch means is mounted on a circuit board.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the seal is made of conductive material.

Claims 16-44 (Cancelled).

45. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the counter, ramp and seal are formed in a common component.

46. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a sump for a nozzle of the canister wherein said counter, ramp,. seal and sump are formed as a common component.

Claim 47-54 (Cancelled).

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the ramp further permits travel of the ferrule over the ramp to allow opening of the canister valve after acting on the switch means.

56. (Currently amended) An apparatus for the dispensation of medication comprising:

at least one canister containing the medication to be dispensed, said canister being movable in a first and a second direction;

a canister holder;

a switch means for completing an electrical circuit when said canister moves in said first direction and opening the electrical circuit when said canister moves in the second direction, wherein the switch means is oriented to enable operational connectivity with the canister or canister discharge;

a counter module for performing a count upon the closure of the electrical circuit and displaying a dispensation history of the medication in the at least one canister wherein the count is performed before the medication is dispensed; and

[a ramp that is contacted by a ferrule portion of the canister in a direction substantially non-axial to the first direction and which acts upon the switch means when the canister is moved in the first direction]

a seal isolating the counter module from the canister to prevent cross-contamination and rendering said module substantially water-resistant, said seal comprising a ramp that is contacted by a ferrule portion of the canister in a direction substantially non-axial to the first direction and which acts upon the switch means when the canister is moved in the first direction.

57. (New) An apparatus for dispensing medication comprising: at least one canister containing the medication to be dispensed, said canister being movable in a first and a second direction;

a canister holder;

a mouthpiece providing a point of dispensation for the medication from the canister to a user when the canister is moved in the first direction;

a switch means for completing an electrical circuit when said canister moves in said first direction and opening the electrical circuit when said canister moves in the second direction, wherein the switch means is oriented to enable operational connectivity with the canister or canister discharge;

a counter module for performing a count upon the closure of the electrical circuit and displaying a dispensation history of the medication in the at least one canister; and

a seal isolating the counter module from the mouthpiece and the canister to prevent cross-contamination and rendering said module substantially water-resistant, wherein said seal is contacted by a ferrule portion of the canister in a direction substantially non-axial to the first direction and which contact directly acts upon the switch means when the canister is moved in the first direction.